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The VEGETABLE SITUATION

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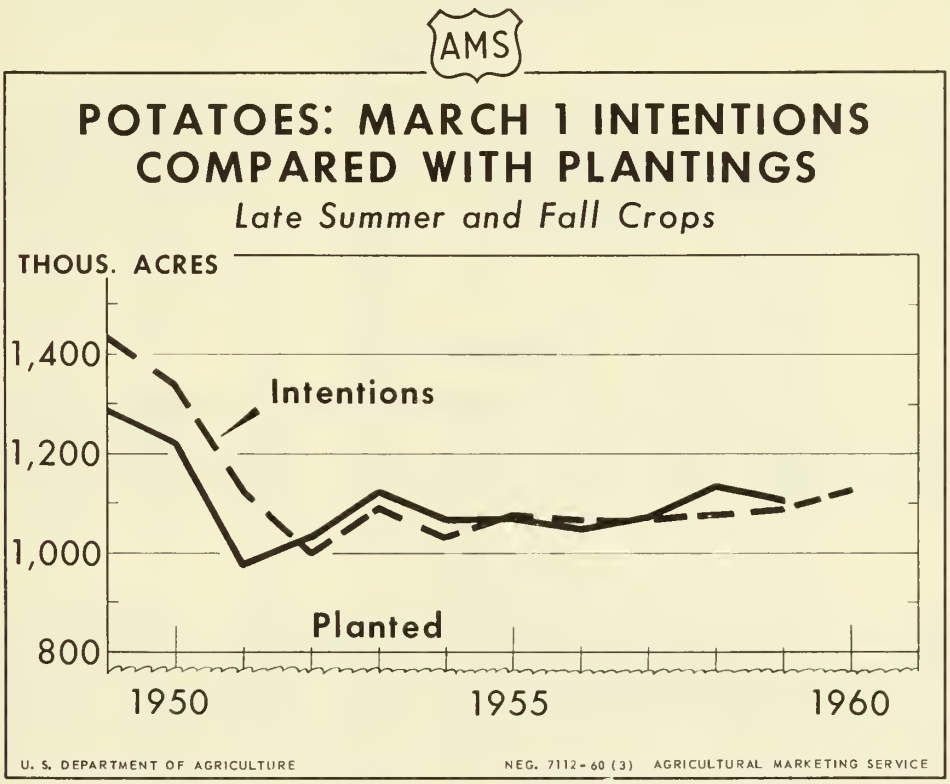
In this issue:
Trends in the Geographic Pattern of Production of Tomatoes for Processing



Potato growers in the late summer and fall States since 1951 have generally planted close to the acreage indicated in March 1 intentions reports. In 1958, however, plantings were moderately above March intentions, ahd in 1959 slightly above.

Growers in these States report intentions to increase acreage about 1 percent over 1959. The intended acreage likely would result in overproduction and relatively low prices. To avoid this probability, the Department recommends that growers plant 3 percent less acreage for late summer harvest than in 1959, and 7 percent less for fall harvest.

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Table 1.--Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Reported commercial acreage and production of principal crops, selected seasons, average 1949-58, 1959 and indicated 1960

Seasonal group and crop	Acreage					Production				
			1960					1960		
	Average 1949-58	1959	Indicated	Percentage of average	Percentage of 1959	Average 1949-58	1959	Indicated	Percentage of average	Percentage of 1959
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Pct.	Pct.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt	1,000 cwt.	Pct.	Pct.
Winter 1/	258,670	236,810	238,660	92	101	30,771	30,337	32,180	105	106
Spring:										
Asparagus										
early and mid 1/	85,060	94,900	91,900	108	97	2,073	2,251	2,215	107	98
late 1/	56,810	65,000	64,400	113	99	---	---	---	---	---
Beans, lima	4,930	2,700	2,600	53	96	---	---	---	---	---
Beans, snap										
early and mid 2/	37,100	27,900	31,700	85	114	581	335	544	94	162
Beets	950	550	400	42	73	98	46	36	37	78
Broccoli 1/ 3/	10,840	13,300	13,700	126	103	659	998	890	135	89
Cabbage										
early 1/	19,460	15,450	13,800	71	89	2,414	1,844	1,785	74	97
late 1/	9,770	8,200	7,800	80	95	---	---	---	---	---
Cantaloups	39,340	32,900	29,500	75	90	---	---	---	---	---
Carrots	2,540	1,500	1,700	67	113	537	368	366	68	99
Cauliflower 3/	7,080	7,900	8,400	119	106	1,130	1,343	1,386	123	103
Celery	6,670	8,300	8,200	123	99	3,501	3,602	4,230	121	117
Corn, sweet 3/	33,110	37,300	37,500	113	101	2,175	2,423	2,452	113	101
Cucumbers 3/	11,270	10,500	11,000	98	105	867	772	768	89	99
Eggplant	1,220	1,000	1,100	90	110	136	115	121	89	105
Lettuce 3/	47,180	51,950	41,450	88	80	5,937	7,201	5,952	100	83
Onions										
early	35,780	33,000	28,500	80	86	2,296	2,145	2,565	112	120
late	14,760	12,400	10,750	73	87	---	---	---	---	---
Peas, green 3/	6,540	3,900	3,000	46	77	215	160	105	49	66
Peppers, green	7,830	6,700	7,100	91	106	488	302	355	73	118
Shallots	2,280	1,600	1,300	57	81	60	26	32	53	123
Spinach	10,150	6,590	6,600	65	100	632	392	416	66	106
Tomatoes 3/	54,400	46,800	35,300	65	75	3,764	4,041	2,775	74	69
Watermelons										
late	89,680	80,700	80,600	90	100	---	---	---	---	---
Summer:										
Cabbage										
early 1/	8,850	8,000	8,160	92	102	---	---	---	---	---
late 1/	22,090	18,550	18,300	83	99	---	---	---	---	---
Garlic	2,140	3,200	5,000	234	156	---	---	---	---	---
Onions										
early	7,770	10,750	11,590	149	108	---	---	---	---	---
late	59,670	57,280	56,700	95	99	---	---	---	---	---
Watermelons										
early	293,030	277,200	297,800	102	107	---	---	---	---	---
late	24,540	31,000	34,500	141	111	---	---	---	---	---

1/ Indludes processing.
2/ Production for early spring only.
3/ Acreage and production for early spring only.

Vegetables-Fresh Market Report, USDA, AMS, issued monthly.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, April 25, 1960

CONTENTS

SUMMARY

Early production estimates for vegetables which make up the bulk of spring tonnage indicate that supplies of fresh vegetables will be moderately smaller this spring than last, and probably slightly smaller than the 1949-58 average. Crops in the Southeast were delayed by cold, wet weather, and some Texas crops were damaged by the late February freeze. However, growth of vegetables in California and Arizona has been stimulated somewhat by above normal temperatures, and early supplies from these areas compensate to some extent for delayed harvest in other areas.

Overall supplies of fresh vegetables are expected to pick up rapidly during the next few weeks, and prices are likely to continue their seasonal decline. Late planting and delayed growth in some sections are likely to result in late spring in more than the usual overlap of harvest between areas.

Indications are that agregate holdings of canned vegetables are substantially smaller than the large holdings of a year earlier, with declines for most items. However, except for sauerkraut which is in a tight position, supplies of other major items are above the recent 10-year average and fully ample. Frozen holdings also are somewhat smaller than a year earlier.

Processors apparently are aiming for about the same overall pack of vegetables this year as last. Recent intentions reports for 9 major crops for processing indicate that processors plan to plant or contract about 2 percent more acreage than last year. Should this acreage materialize and growing conditions are near average, the total tonnage for processing would be about the same as in 1959. Total supplies of canned vegetables likely would be a little smaller in the 1960-61 season than in the current season because of expected lighter stocks at the beginning of the coming season. Aggregate supplies of frozen items probably would be moderately larger.

Supplies of potatoes available for the spring as a whole are likely to be a little smaller than last spring. Holdings of fall crop potatoes on March 1 were about 6 million hundredweight less than a year earlier. However, estimated production for early spring harvest is up 9 percent, and indicated acreage for late spring harvest is up 11 percent. Because of delayed planting and development of crops in the Southeast, more than the usual overlap of harvest is likely among important areas. If this occurs, a substantial price decline is likely in late spring.

Intentions reports indicate that potato growers plan to plant slightly more acreage than last year to both the early summer crop and the late summer and fall crops, combined.

Growers reported plans, as of March 1, to plant 16 percent less acreage to sweetpotatoes than last year. If this occurs, production probably will be down substantially from 1959, and prices to growers are likely to average materially above those of the current season.

Intentions reports indicate that farmers plan to plant about the same acreage to both dry edible beans and dry field peas this year as last. If yields should be near the average of recent years, total supplies of dry beans would be moderately smaller in the 1960-61 season than in the current season. Supplies of dry peas would also be moderately smaller than in the current season, but probably larger than needed for domestic and export markets.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET

Early reports for commercial vegetables, excluding melons, which comprises about three-fourths of spring tonnage indicate that production of vegetables for spring harvest is likely to be moderately smaller than last year, and slightly below the 1949-58 average. Cold, wet weather delayed planting and development of crops in the Southeast, and some Texas crops were damaged by the late February freeze. On the other hand, growth of vegetables in California and Arizona has been stimulated by above normal temperatures.

Among the more important vegetables, substantially smaller tonnages are indicated for early spring broccoli, lettuce and tomatoes, and a slightly smaller tonnage for early spring asparagus and cabbage. Substantially larger production than last year is indicated for early spring snap beans and onions and for spring celery and green peppers. Also, prospective tonnage is slightly larger for early spring cauliflower and moderately larger for spring spinach. Overall supplies of fresh vegetables are expected to increase rapidly during the next few weeks, and prices are likely to continue their seasonal decline. More than the usual overlap of marketing is expected among important producing areas, because of late plantings and delayed growth in some areas. During the next 4 to 5 weeks prices to growers may average somewhat below those of a year earlier.

Indicated acreage of watermelons for late spring harvest is about the same as a year ago, while cabbage is 5 percent smaller, and onions 13 percent smaller. Intentions reports indicate that growers plan to plant 2 percent more acreage to cabbage for early summer harvest than in 1959, and 7 percent more watermelons. Growers also report intentions to plant 8 percent more acreage of onions for early summer harvest than last year. Intended acreage of onions for late summer harvest is down 1 percent.

Prospects for Major Items

Cabbage. Supplies of cabbage in the winter of 1960 were materially larger than in 1959. Demand was strong, partly as a result of light supplies of a number of tender vegetables, and prices to growers in the early weeks of 1960 averaged somewhat above those of a year earlier. In late winter, the larger supplies began to weigh on markets and for several weeks prices fell below year earlier levels. However, shipping point prices in early April averaged a little above the low levels of a year earlier.

Indications are that supplies of cabbage may be a little smaller this spring than last. Prospective production of the early spring crop, which typically furnishes about two-thirds of total spring tonnage, is 3 percent smaller than last year. Although no production estimate is available on cabbage for late spring harvest, prospective acreage is 5 percent smaller than in 1959.

Prospective acreage of cabbage for early summer harvest is 2 percent larger than last year, and that for late summer harvest 1 percent smaller. Normal abandonment and yields near the average of recent years on the indicated acreages would result in moderately less early summer tonnage than in 1959, and about the same late summer tonnage as last year. With kraut packers likely to be active bidders, prices to growers this summer are expected to average much above current low levels, and probably near year earlier levels.

Celery. Supplies of winter celery in 1960 were about a sixth smaller than the record supplies of the previous winter, because of a cut in acreage. Prices, though generally at moderate levels, averaged much above the low levels of a year earlier.

During early April unloads of celery in the 38 cities remained somewhat lighter than those of a year earlier. However, indicated spring production is up 17 percent, so that remaining supplies are materially larger than both a year ago and average. Most of the increase over 1959 is in California, with Florida up only slightly. Because of heavy supplies from California, prices received by growers in late spring are expected to average below those of a year earlier.

Sweet Corn. Production of sweet corn for early spring marketing, which usually makes up about three-fourths of the spring total, is estimated at 2.5 million hundredweight. This compares with 2.4 million hundredweight in 1959 and a 1949-58 average of 2.2 million. Unload data in early April indicated that marketings were running much smaller than those of a year earlier. Movement is expected to pick up rapidly in the weeks ahead as delayed plantings mature, and in late spring may exceed a year earlier. Prices during the next 4 to 6 weeks are likely to average somewhat below those for the corresponding weeks of 1959.

Tomatoes. Indications are that total supplies of tomatoes for fresh market will be materially smaller this spring than last. Acreage of the important early spring crop is about a fourth smaller than last year. All States reported declines, with Texas down sharply. Condition of the Florida crop varies considerably because of repeated weather damage. Much of the Texas crop, which typically moves in volume in early April, was destroyed or severely damaged by freezing temperatures in late February. Texas production will be relatively light, and several weeks late. Prospective total early spring production is about a third smaller than last year, and a fourth below the 1949-58 average. Because of some replanting and delayed maturity, however, remaining supplies probably are down somewhat less than production figures indicate. No estimate is available on the less important late spring crop. Prices to growers during the next 4 to 6 weeks probably will average above those of a year earlier.

Lettuce. Market supplies of lettuce were a little larger this winter than last mainly as a result of increased acreage and higher yields in Texas. However, demand for lettuce was strong, partly because of light supplies of a number of other salad items. Except in mid-winter, when supplies were much heavier than in 1959, prices to growers averaged well above the relatively low levels of a year earlier.

Indications are that supplies of lettuce this spring will be materially smaller than the large supplies of last spring. Production for

early spring harvest, which typically makes up about four-fifths of the total spring tonnage, is down 17 percent from last year. The reduction is due to a substantially smaller acreage in the Salt River Valley of Arizona, and to a sharply lower acreage and moderately lower yield in California. Estimates are not yet available for the total late spring crop. Prices to growers during the next 4 to 6 weeks probably will average materially above those of a year earlier.

Onions. More onions are expected to be available this spring than last. The early spring crop in Texas, estimated in early April at 2.6 million hundredweight, is about a fifth above the light crop of 1959, and 12 percent above the recent 10-year average. The larger output than last year is the result of higher prospective yields, as acreage is smaller in all areas except the Lower Valley which is unchanged. Movement of the crop through March was relatively light because of adverse weather which hampered harvesting and curing, though it was larger than a year ago when the season was several weeks late. Seeders are a serious problem in the Lower Valley and are showing up in the Winter Garden and Laredo areas. The crop in the Lower Valley was further damaged by heavy rains around mid-April. With larger supplies of storage onions from the late summer crop and larger prospective new crop supplies, prices to growers for both old and new crop average much below the high prices of a year earlier.

Acreage of onions for late spring harvest is 13 percent smaller than last year. A small increase in California is more than offset by declines in Arizona, Texas, North Carolina and Georgia. On the indicated acreage, 1956-59 yields by States would result in a production about a tenth less than last year, but substantially above the 1949-58 average. With some overlap from the early spring crop in prospect, such a late spring volume may result in some marketing difficulties and relatively low prices.

Based on growers intentions reports of early February and early March, prospective plantings of onions for early summer harvest are 8 percent above a year ago, while intended plantings for late summer harvest are down 1 percent. Should the intended acreage materialize and growing weather be about average, supplies of early summer onions, particularly from Texas and New Mexico, probably would be burdensome. Also, supplies of late summer onions probably would be moderately larger than anticipated trade demand.

Cantaloups. Acreage of cantaloups for spring harvest is down in all States except Florida, which reports the same acreage as in 1959. The substantial cut in California acreage resulted from a sharp reduction in the Blythe area as Imperial County and Coachella Valley reported increases. In Texas, a sharp cut in the Winter Garden area more than offset an increase in the Laredo area. The crops in Florida and Texas were seriously damaged by adverse weather, and much of the acreage was replanted. This will delay harvest and probably will result in more than the usual amount of overlap of harvest between areas. The crop in West Mexico, which exports substantial quantities to this country in the spring, is also later than usual. The crop in California is in generally good condition.

Watermelons. During the next 3 to 4 weeks supplies of watermelons are expected to be materially smaller than a year ago. Acreage for late spring harvest is about the same as a year ago, but crops are generally later. Although severe damage from cold weather necessitated heavy replanting of the Florida crop, yields may turn out better than last spring. Prospective early summer acreage is about 7 percent larger than last year, with most of the increase in Texas. Considerable acreage in the Lower Valley had to be replanted after the freeze in late February. Cold weather also delayed plantings in other early summer States. Should yields by States be near the 1955-58 average, production on the indicated early summer acreage would be slightly larger than both 1959 and the recent 10-year average.

Indicated production of watermelons in late spring and early summer ordinarily would result in little or no marketing difficulties. However, because of replanting and delay in planting, more than the usual amount of overlap of harvest is likely between areas. If this happens, prices during such overlap may be depressed. In any event, prices during the next 3 to 4 weeks probably will average somewhat above those of a year earlier.

PROCESSED VEGETABLES

Supplies Smaller Than a Year Ago But Generally Adequate

Stocks of canned vegetables on January 1 were almost a tenth smaller than those of January 1, 1959, while stocks of frozen vegetables were about the same as those of a year earlier. Demand for processed vegetables was strong this winter, partly as a result of damage to Florida winter vegetables. Recent stocks data indicate that the net outmovement since January 1 of both canned and frozen vegetables has been somewhat larger than in the early months of 1959. Recent canner holdings of sweet corn and spinach were materially above the light holdings of a year earlier. But holdings of canned snap beans, green peas, asparagus, lima beans, and beets were materially smaller, and sauerkraut much smaller. Indications are that remaining supplies of tomatoes, tomato juice, and most tomato products are also significantly smaller than a year ago. Except for sauerkraut, however, supplies of most major items are above the 1949-58 average, and fully ample to furnish markets until new pack becomes available.

Movement of a number of frozen vegetables increased significantly as adverse weather curtailed winter production of certain fresh items. Among major frozen vegetables, January-March net outmovement of lima beans, snap beans, corn and green peas was substantially above that of a year earlier. Net outmovement of all frozen vegetables was moderately above that of last year. Stocks of frozen vegetables on April 1 amounted to 613 million pounds, 5 percent less than a year earlier. Stocks of spinach were materially larger than on April 1, 1959, French fried potatoes moderately larger, and carrots and frozen green peas slightly larger; but holdings of most other items were smaller.

Demand for processed vegetables picked up considerably this winter compared with the sluggish demand earlier in the season. Markets generally advanced as trading picked up, with f.o.b. prices of most items currently at or above year earlier levels. Demand is expected to continue active, and most processed items in the next 2 to 3 months are likely to move at firm to moderately higher prices.

Carryover stocks of canned vegetables at the end of the current season are expected to be substantially smaller than the heavy stocks of a year earlier, and frozen stocks also are expected to be materially smaller. Early reports indicate that canners in 1960 are likely to seek a pack close to that of 1959. The overall frozen pack probably will be somewhat larger than last year as this industry continues to expand.

March and April intentions reports indicate that processors plan to plant or contract about 2 percent more acreage than last year. These reports point to about the same acreage for canning as last year, and a materially larger acreage for freezing. Total intended acreages of green lima beans and contract acreage for kraut are up substantially, and snap beans, green peas and beets for canning up moderately. Acreage of winter and early spring spinach for processing was down from 1959. Also, prospective acreages of sweet corn and cucumbers for pickles are down 3 percent, and tomatoes down 1 percent. The reports of intentions are only tentative. A number of factors, including the intentions reports, may cause processors to modify their plans. However, should the intended acreage materialize and growing conditions be about average, total tonnage of vegetables for processing would be about the same as in 1959. Because of lighter stocks at the beginning of next season, supplies of canned vegetables would be a little smaller in 1960-61 than in the current season. Supplies of frozen vegetables probably would be slightly to moderately larger.

Snap Beans. Consumption of canned snap beans continues to increase. Disappearance so far this season has been materially larger than a year earlier and about a fourth above the 1949-58 average. During the first half of the season green and wax beans generally sold lower than a year earlier. However, since the first of the year, markets have advanced and most items are now at or above year earlier levels. Carryover at the end of the current season will be substantially smaller than the heavy carryover of a year earlier. Canner stocks on April 1 were 7.1 million cases, 24/2 equivalents, compared with 9.5 million on April 1, 1959, and a 1949-58 average of 5.5 million. Frozen stocks on April 1 amounted to 47 million pounds, about a fifth less than a year earlier.

April 1 intentions reports indicate that packers plan to plant or contract 6 percent more acreage of snap beans for processing this year than last. Intended acreage for canning, which makes up about three-fourths of the total is up 4 percent, and acreage for freezing up 14 percent. Yields near the average of recent years, on the indicated acreage, would result in at least a moderately larger canned pack than last year, and a substantially larger frozen pack. Such a production, with anticipated carryover would result in about the same quantity of canned snap beans as the near record supply of the current season, and somewhat larger frozen supplies.

Green Peas. Because of a smaller 1959 pack, supplies of canned green peas in the 1959-60 season were moderately smaller than the large supplies of the past two seasons. Also, disappearance this season has been somewhat larger than last season. Nevertheless, supplies were above the recent 10-year average, and prices have generally been below those of a year earlier. Canner stocks on April 1 were down sharply from the high levels of a year earlier, about 9 million cases 24/2 equivalents, compared with 13 million cases on April 1, 1959. Stocks of frozen peas were slightly larger than a year ago.

Processors in early March reported intentions to plant or contract 5 percent more acreage of green peas than last year, with freezing up 10 percent and canning up 2 percent. In recent years from a fourth to a third of the total crop has gone into freezing. Major producing areas in the Midwest and Pacific Northwest are getting a late start because of cold, wet soil. Yields near the 1958-59 average on the indicated acreage would result in about the same tonnage of peas for canning as last year, and moderately more for freezing. Because of a smaller carryover from the 1959 pack, supplies of canned peas next season would be substantially smaller than in the current season but fully ample. Supplies of frozen peas probably would be moderately larger than this season.

Sweet Corn. Remaining supplies of canned corn on April 1 were 14 percent larger than a year ago, but only moderately above the recent 10-year average. Prices of most canned corn items in the East are near those of a year ago, but prices in the Midwest generally are lower. Frozen stocks are somewhat smaller than a year ago.

Growers' intentions, on April 1, indicate 5 percent less acreage of sweet corn for canning than last year. But prospective acreage for freezing, which typically takes about a sixth of the total production for processing, is up 12 percent. The intended acreages, with 1956-58 average yields would result in a materially smaller canned pack than last year. Because of the larger expected carryover at the beginning of the 1960-61 season, total canned supplies would be close to those of the 1959-60 season. Frozen supplies would be materially larger.

Tomatoes. Supplies of tomatoes, tomato juice and most tomato products in the current season were materially below the heavy supplies of the previous season, but above average. Consumption of most of these items so far this season appears to be running the same to a little ahead of last season, leaving current holdings well below those of a year ago. Average f.o.b. prices of tomato juice and puree in early April were about the same as a year ago, and tomatoes, catsup, and paste were higher. Prices during the remainder of the season will be influenced by remaining 1959 crop supplies, and also by the prospective size and price of the 1960 pack.

According to the March 1 intentions reports, prospective acreage of tomatoes for processing is 1 percent smaller than last year. Intended acreage in the Mid-Atlantic States is about the same as last year, with an increase in New Jersey roughly offset by a decline in Pennsylvania. Prospective acreage in the Midwest is down slightly, though Indiana shows a slight increase and Iowa a sharp increase. Ohio, Illinois, Michigan and Missouri are down. The South Atlantic - South Central area reports the sharpest decline from 1959--14 percent. Among important producing States in this area, only South Carolina reports an increase. Growers in California, which produces about 60 percent of total U. S. tonnage, plan a 4 percent increase in acreage. Utah also reports an increase, but Texas and Colorado are down.

It is much too early to estimate probable production of tomatoes for processing. Plantings and production will be influenced by weather, availability of plants and contract prices. However, the intended acreage with 1956-59 average yields would result in a production about the same as in 1959. Production at this level should bring overall supplies about in balance with trade demand.

Sauerkraut. Largely because of smaller available supplies, movement of sauerkraut to date has been materially less than a year earlier and prices considerably higher. Current supplies are tight. March 1 canners' stocks were only 3.3 million cases, 24/2 equivalents, compared with 5.2 million cases on March 1, 1959.

Intentions reports as of April 1 indicate that growers plan to plant or contract 14 percent more acreage of cabbage for kraut than last year. Should yields be near the 1954-58 average, production on the intended acreage would be almost a fourth larger than in 1959. In addition to production from contract acreage, kraut manufacturers typically purchase large quantities of cabbage from open market supplies. Processors are likely to aim for a total pack materially larger than the small pack of 1959.

Spinach. California canners' stocks of spinach on March 1 were about double the light holdings of a year earlier and frozen stocks on April 1 were about a third larger.

Early spring tonnage in California, which usually makes up about 40 percent of the total U. S. annual production of spinach for processing, is slightly larger than last spring. Prospective acreage and production is not yet available for the other seasonal spinach crops.

Cucumbers. April 15 indicated prospective acreage of cucumbers for pickles is 3 percent smaller than in 1959. This acreage with 1958-59 average yields by States would result in a production almost a tenth below that of 1959, but about the same as the 1949-58 average.

Beets. Prospective acreage of beets for canning is 7 percent larger than a year ago, with substantial increases in New York and Oregon and a small increase in Wisconsin. However, normal abandonment and 1957-59 average yields by States would result in moderately less tonnage than in 1959, and materially less than the 1949-58 average.

POTATOES

Supplies of potatoes available were materially smaller during the first quarter of 1960, than the heavy supplies of a year earlier. Stocks of fall crop potatoes on January 1, 1960 were smaller than the same date of 1959. Also, acreage for winter harvest was down sharply from the previous winter; the Florida crop was severely damaged by cold weather, and yields were much lower. Total winter production was 3 million hundredweight, 1 million less than in 1959.

Movement of potatoes to both fresh market and food processing outlets in the period January-March was slightly to moderately larger than a year ago, and prices to growers were about double the low levels of a year earlier. Largely because of adverse weather which has delayed planting and development of the spring crop in the Southeast and extended the season of heavy demand for the moderate stocks of storage potatoes, f.o.b. prices moved up about a dollar per hundredweight during March.

Spring Prospects

Total supplies of potatoes available probably will remain slightly to moderately smaller this spring than last. Stocks of fall crop potatoes on March 1 amounted to about 56 million hundredweight, 6 million less than a year earlier. Acreage of potatoes for early spring harvest was about 12 percent larger than in 1959. Damage from adverse weather was again heavy and indicated yield per acre is relatively low. Prospective production of 3.4 million hundredweight is 9 percent above that of 1959. Indicated acreage for late spring harvest is up 11 percent from last year. Acreage in the Southeast and South Central States is up 4 percent from 1959 with most of the increase in the Baldwin Alabama area. In Alabama and other Southeastern States, planting was delayed or planted fields damaged by cold, wet weather. Acreage in the Southwest--Oklahoma, Texas and Arizona--is up 15 percent. Indicated acreage in California, which typically produces about 60 percent of the total late spring tonnage, is up 19 percent. The crop in California has made good progress with harvesting in early districts reportedly showing good yields. USDA's first production estimate for late spring potatoes will be available May 10.

If weather conditions in the principal producing areas are near average during the remaining weeks of spring, supplies of new crop potatoes will increase rapidly. Domestic demand is expected to remain active, and demand for export to Canada is likely to be unusually strong. During the next 4 to 5 weeks prices to growers probably will remain above both those of a year earlier

and average. In the closing weeks of spring, large supplies from California and more than the usual bunching of supplies from other areas are likely to result in a substantial price decline.

Summer and Fall

Acreage. Growers, in early February, reported intentions to plant a slightly larger acreage of potatoes for early summer harvest than last year. March 1 intentions reports in the late summer and fall States combined, also indicate about 1 percent increase in plantings over 1959.

Prospective acreage of potatoes for late summer and fall harvest in the 8 eastern States is down 1 percent with a slight increase in Maine more than offset by declines in New York and Pennsylvania. Intended acreage in the 9 Central States is up 3 percent with moderate increases in North Dakota, Minnesota and Indiana more than offsetting decreases in Ohio, Michigan and Nebraska. Prospective acreage in the 9 Western States is 2 percent larger than in 1959. Among the more important States in the area, planting intentions are up in Idaho, Colorado and California, the same as a year ago in Washington, and down in Oregon.

Production. The intended acreage of early summer potatoes and yields near the average of recent years would produce a crop about the size of the 1959 crop. This would be at least moderately larger than recommended in the Department's acreage-marketing guide.

The intended acreage of potatoes for late summer and fall harvest combined is somewhat larger than recommended in the acreage-marketing guide. Yields near the average of recent years, adjusted for upward trend, would result in moderately more potatoes than last year, and more than needed to supply regular trade channels. Overproduction of potatoes weighs heavily on markets and seriously depresses prices. To keep production in line with anticipated demand, the Department recommends that growers plant 3 percent less acreage of potatoes for late summer harvest than in 1959, and 7 percent less acreage for fall harvest.

SWEETPOTATOES

Prices at Relatively Low Levels

The larger supplies of sweetpotatoes this season than last have weighed heavily on markets. Most of the 1959 crop has returned a price to growers about 15 percent lower than those of a year earlier, and more than a fifth below the 1954-58 average. In mid-March prices to growers averaged $3.46 per hundredweight compared with $3.96 in mid-March 1959. The

Department of Agriculture in late February announced a sweetpotato purchase program to assist growers in marketing their abundant supplies. Through April 22, about 33,000 hundredweight had been purchased in New Jersey and North Carolina. The purchase program expired in North Carolina on April 15, and is scheduled to end in New Jersey on April 30. Sweetpotatoes purchased are distributed to non-profit school lunch programs and other eligible outlets.

Substantial Cut in Acreage Indicated

March 1 intentions reports indicate that growers plan to plant about 242,000 acres of sweetpotatoes, 16 percent less than last year and almost a third less than the 1949-58 average. The cutback from 1959 is general, with all States except Kansas reporting moderately to substantially less acreage. Among the more important producing States, cuts of 20 percent or slightly more were reported in Louisiana, South Carolina and Tennessee. Cuts of 10 to 17 percent were reported in New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi. California cut acreage 8 percent, and Texas 5 percent.

Prospects for 1960-61 Season

If farmers plant close to the intended acreage, and yields are near the average of recent years, supplies of sweetpotatoes in the coming season will be materially smaller than in the current season, and probably the smallest of record. Demand for sweetpotatoes in 1960-61 is not likely to differ much from that of the current season. However, if production is down as much as now seems likely, prices to growers in 1960-61 probably will average substantially above the low levels of the current season.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Demand for Beans Remains Strong

Because of the production pattern in 1959, the major classes of colored beans have been in tight supply in the current season, while white classes have been in generally large supply. Both domestic and export demand have been strong this season. Domestic movement probably has been about the same as the relatively high level of the previous season, and exports to date have been considerably larger. Exports in the period September-February were about double those of a year earlier. All of the increase was accounted for by heavier exports of white classes, as exports of colored beans were down.

Prices of the principal colored classes have averaged much above those of last season. White classes have averaged below those of a year earlier, but generally above support levels. However, about 180,000 hundredweight of pea beans in Michigan were delivered to CCC under the support program. These beans were made available on the CCC monthly sales list for April. On March 31, about 480,000 hundredweight of beans were under the government loan and purchase agreement program in States in which loans mature on April 30. However, relatively few of these beans are expected to be delivered to CCC. Demand is expected to continue active, and prices during the remainder of the season are likely to average close to current levels.

Little Change in Acreage Indicated

March 1 intentions reports indicate that producers plan to plant about 1 percent less acreage to dry beans than last year and 2 percent less than the 1949-58 average. Prospective acreage is a little larger in the Northeast because of a 3 percent increase in Michigan, which produces most of the nation's pea beans. Intended acreage in New York State, principal producer of red kidney beans is down 4 percent.

Growers in the Northwest, leading area in the production of great northern and small red types, reportedly plan to plant 8 percent less acreage than in 1959. Only Idaho plans as much acreage as last year. In addition to large quantities of great northerns and small reds, Idaho produces about a fourth to a third of the country's pinto crop. Prospective acreage in the Southwest, which produces over half the pinto crop is up slightly from 1959.

Intended acreage of lima beans in California is down 5 percent from a year ago. Acreage of "other beans," mostly blackeye, pink and small white is down 2 percent.

Prospects for the Coming Season

Because of a smaller 1959 crop, carryover stocks of dry beans at the end of the current season are expected to be at least moderately smaller than those of a year earlier, and substantially below most other recent years. Carryover of white beans probably will be substantially larger than the previous season, but carryover of colored classes will be much smaller.

If farmers plant the intended acreage, 1955-59 average yields by States would result in a production of 17.3 million bags compared with 18.2 million bags in 1959. With smaller overall stocks likely at the end of the current season, supplies in the 1960-61 season would be moderately smaller than in the current season. Supplies of white and colored classes next season likely would be in somewhat better balance than in 1959-60, but supplies of colored beans still would be below utilization in a number of recent years.

Domestic demand next season probably will be close to that of the current season. Foreign demand is expected to be good, but barring a poor crop in Europe may be somewhat below that of the current season. If the prospective supply-demand situation materializes, prices to growers for colored beans next season probably will average materially lower than for the current season, and white beans higher. Overall prices are likely to average materially above the National average support level of $5.35 per hundredweight.

The Deparment of Agriculture, in early March, announced the removal of dry edible beans from the list of crops designated as surplus on lands leased from U. S. Government agencies. A surplus crop produced in violation of a restrictive lease on land leased from a U. S. Government agency is not eligible for price support. The surplus designated list now includes cotton (upland and extra long staple), barley, corn, grain sorghums, flaxseed, oats, rice, rye, soybeans, wheat, peanuts, and tobacco.

DRY FIELD PEAS

Movement Good, Remaining Supplies Large

Domestic use of dry peas in the current season has been materially larger than the disappearance from the light supplies of the previous season. Export demand also has been unusually active. Exports of dry peas from September through February amounted to 1.3 million hundredweight, 40 percent more than in the same months last season. While exports in the last half of the current season are expected to be much smaller than in the first half, the total for the season is expected to exceed those of 1958-59.

Total supplies of peas available in 1959-60 were about a third larger than the previous season. Despite the good rate of movement into both domestic and export markets so far this season, remaining supplies of dry peas are substantially larger than a year ago. Considering the large supplies available, prices have held up fairly well, though Alaskas and other smooth green kinds have moved at prices much below the high levels of a year earlier.

About the Same Acreage, Smaller Production Likely in 1960

Intentions reports on March 1 indicated that dry pea producers plan to plant about the same acreage as in 1959. Although peas also are grown in Minnesota, North Dakota, Colorado, and Oregon, the great bulk of the crop is grown in Idaho and Washington. Growers in Idaho plan 10 percent less acreage, but prospective plantings are up 5 percent in Washington and also up in

Minnesota, Colorado, and Oregon. Yields near the 1955-59 average and normal abandonment on the intended acreage would result in a crop of 3.6 million hundredweight. This compares with a production of 4.4 million hundredweight in 1959 and a 1949-58 average of 3.1 million.

Supplies in the Coming Season May Exceed Demand

Domestic outlets for dry peas in this country in 1960-61 probably will take 2.5 to 2.7 million hundredweight. About 40 percent of this is likely to be used for food, the remainder as seed for planting the green and dry crops, livestock feed, and loss. Exports vary sharply from year to year, but in recent years have shown an upward trend. Exports in the current season are likely to exceed the 1.5 million hundredweight of 1958-59.

Carryover stocks at the beginning of next season are expected to be much larger than the light carryover of a year earlier. However, should farmers stay close to planting intentions, production probably would be substantially smaller than in the previous season, and total supplies moderately smaller. Total disappearance in the coming season probably would permit some working down of stocks. However, unless export demand should hold at record or near record levels, supplies probably would be somewhat larger than needed for domestic and export markets. But with smaller supplies available in the 1960-61 season than in the current season, prices to growers probably would average moderately to substantially higher.

The Vegetable Situation is published 4 times a year -- in January, April, July and October.

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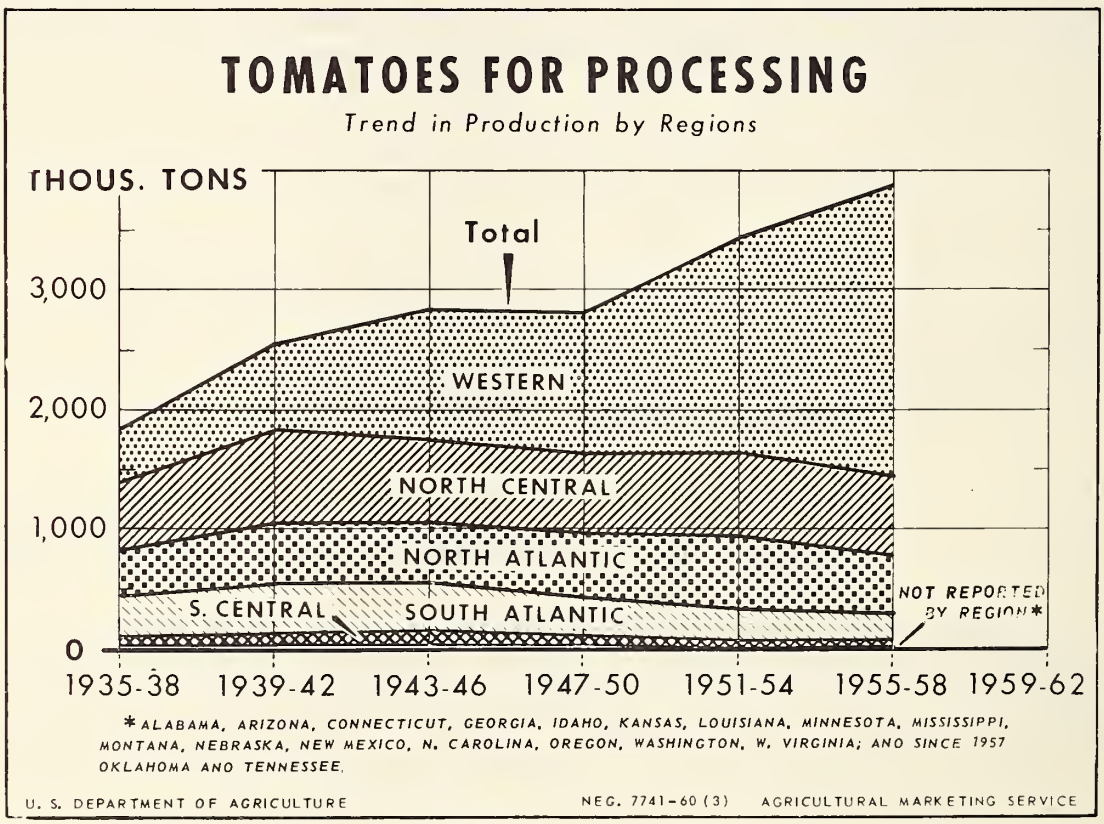
The next issue is scheduled for release July 27.

TRENDS IN THE GEOGRAPHIC PATTERN OF PRODUCTION OF TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING 1/

During the past two decades, striking changes have occurred in the acreage and yield of tomatoes for processing, and in the geographic pattern of production. Without attempting to evaluate the complex forces which have combined to bring about these changes, the following discussion is a resume of important regional and intra-regional shifts.

Total production of tomatoes for processing more than doubled from 1935-38 to 1955-58, increasing from 1,839,000 tons to 3,880,000 tons. Acreage declined more than a fifth, but yield increased from 4.2 to 11.6 tons per acre. Acreage increased about 80 percent in the Western States, but declined in each of the other regions. Since early in the period, the West has consistently obtained the highest yield per acre, and has shown the sharpest increase in yield.

These acreage and yield changes caused very substantial shifts in the geographic pattern of production. Most notable was the more than five-fold increase in tonnage in the Western Region. This region increased its proportion of the U. S. total, from 24 percent in the earlier years to 63 percent in 1955-58. Despite increases in tonnages, the North Central Region lost ground in relative importance, from 31 to 17 percent of the U. S. total. The North Atlantic share fell from 21 to 12 percent. The South Atlantic and South Central Regions declined both in terms of actual tonnage, and relative importance.



1/ By Will M. Simmons, Division of Agricultural Economics, AMS.

Table 2.--Tomatoes for processing: Trend in harvested acreage, yield and production, United States, by regions, 1935-58

Period	Not reported by region 1/	Western	North Central	South Central	South Atlantic	North Atlantic	Total
	Acreage, by regions						
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
1935-38	7	80	142	38	100	67	434
1939-42	6	96	140	41	93	75	451
1943-46	5	137	135	55	102	96	530
1947-50	3	106	110	36	62	71	388
1951-54	2	116	82	21	48	71	340
1955-58	3	145	70	2/ 22	37	57	334
	Yield per acre, by regions 3/						
	Not reported by region 1/	Western	North Central	South Central	South Atlantic	North Atlantic	Average
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
1935-38	3.6	5.6	4.0	2.1	3.4	5.7	4.2
1939-42	3.8	7.2	5.5	2.4	4.5	6.8	5.6
1943-46	4.4	8.0	5.1	2.4	3.8	5.3	5.4
1947-50	4.7	11.2	5.9	2.4	5.3	7.7	7.2
1951-54	4.0	15.6	8.5	2.5	5.6	8.7	10.1
1955-58	5.3	16.8	9.6	2/2.9	5.6	8.5	11.6
	Production, by regions						
	Not reported by region 1/	Western	North Central	South Central	South Atlantic	North Atlantic	Total
	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons
1935-38	25	444	572	77	337	384	1,839
1939-42	23	695	769	99	416	514	2,516
1943-46	22	1,096	690	133	387	512	2,840
1947-50	14	1,183	643	88	324	550	2,802
1951-54	8	1,801	700	53	267	614	3,443
1955-58	16	2,436	672	2/ 64	210	482	3,880
	Production as percentage of U. S. total						
	Not reported by region 1/	Western	North Central	South Central	South Atlantic	North Atlantic	Total
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1935-38	1.4	24.1	31.1	4.2	18.3	20.9	100.0
1939-42	.9	27.6	30.6	4.0	16.5	20.4	100.0
1943-46	.8	38.6	24.3	4.7	13.6	18.0	100.0
1947-50	.5	42.2	22.9	3.2	11.6	19.6	100.0
1951-54	.2	52.3	20.3	1.6	7.8	17.8	100.0
1955-58	.4	62.8	17.3	2/1.7	5.4	12.4	100.0

1/ Includes Alabama, Arizona, Connecticut, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Washington and West Virginia; and since 1957 Oklahoma and Tennessee.

2/ Except Oklahoma and Tennessee for 1957 and 1958 in which years they are included in "not reported by region."

3/ Computed from unrounded data.

Vegetables-Processing, USDA, AMS, annual report.

Production of tomatoes for processing in the Western Region increased from 444,000 tons in 1935-38 to 2,436,000 tons in 1955-58. Tonnage in the later period accounted for 63 percent of the U. S. total. About a fifth of the West's increase in tonnage in the past 20 years was due to an increase in acreage, and about four-fifths to the sharp increase in average yield. Acreages in Colorado and Utah, which account for a small part of the regional total declined, but acreage in California almost doubled. Yield per acre was up in each of the three States, but the increase in California was particularly sharp. Through the mid-1940's yield per acre averaged higher in Utah than in California; but since that time California has gained a substantial edge.

These acreage and yield changes have resulted in a consistent and rapid increase in production in California. Production in that State increased from 375,000 tons in the early period to 2,353,000 tons in 1955-58. This expansion accounted for practically all of the increase in total U. S. tonnage, and brought California's output up to more than 60 percent of the national total.

Production of tomatoes for processing also increased in Colorado and Utah, but at a much slower rate than in California. Utah's share of the region's total dropped from 11 to little more than 2 percent, and Colorado's from 4 to 1 percent. California's proportion rose from 85 to 97 percent of the regional tonnage.

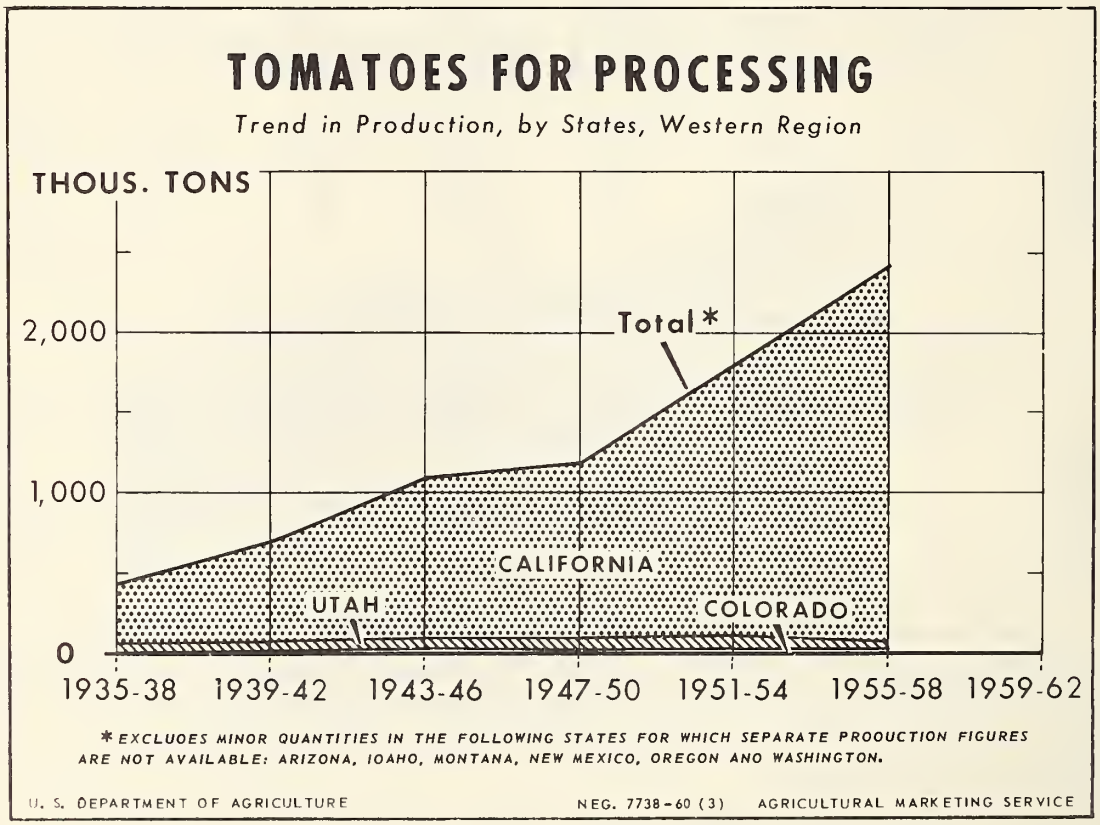


Table 3.--Tomatoes for processing: Trend in harvested acreage, yield and production, selected States, Western Region, 1935-58 1/

Period	Acreage, Western Region			
	California	Colorado	Utah	Total
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
1935-38	70.2	3.7	6.0	79.9
1939-42	85.9	2.7	7.4	96.0
1943-46	125.1	4.8	7.7	137.6
1947-50	95.4	3.3	6.9	105.6
1951-54	105.9	3.0	6.7	115.6
1955-58	137.3	2.9	5.1	145.3
	Yield per acre, Western Region			
	California	Colorado	Utah	Average
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
1935-38	5.3	5.3	8.2	5.6
1939-42	7.1	6.6	9.4	7.2
1943-46	8.0	6.5	8.7	8.0
1947-50	11.4	7.5	10.4	11.2
1951-54	16.0	8.2	12.0	15.6
1955-58	17.1	8.4	11.5	16.8
	Production, Western Region			
	California	Colorado	Utah	Total
	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons
1935-38	375.4	19.5	49.0	443.9
1939-42	608.1	17.9	69.2	695.2
1943-46	997.7	31.1	67.0	1,095.8
1947-50	1,086.6	24.7	72.0	1,183.3
1951-54	1,695.6	24.6	80.4	1,800.6
1955-58	2,352.9	24.3	58.4	2,435.6
	Production as percentage of Western Region			
	California	Colorado	Utah	Total
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1935-38	84.6	4.4	11.0	100.0
1939-42	87.5	2.6	9.9	100.0
1943-46	91.1	2.8	6.1	100.0
1947-50	91.8	2.1	6.1	100.0
1951-54	94.2	1.3	4.5	100.0
1955-58	96.6	1.0	2.4	100.0

1/ Does not include minor amounts in the following States for which separate acreage and production figures are not available: Arizona, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon and Washington. Vegetables-Processing, USDA, AMS, annual report.

The North Central Region is second in importance, after the Western Region, in production of tomatoes for processing. From 1935-38 to 1955-58, acreage in the North Central Region was reduced by one-half, but average yield more than doubled. Although production in 1955-58, was somewhat lower than in much of the preceding 15 years, it was materially above that in 1935-38.

Among the four leading States in the region, acreage declined almost two-thirds in Indiana, increased about 50 percent in Michigan and 12 percent in Illinois, and showed little change in Ohio.

Production in the North Central Region reached a peak of 769,000 tons in the years 1939-42, then declined rather sharply in the following 4-year period. Production has fluctuated, but has shown no definite trend since the mid-1940's. Output of 672,000 tons in 1955-58 was well below the peak production of the early 1940's, but 18 percent above the 1935-38 average.

Important shifts occurred in the pattern of production within the region. Indiana's production declined from 352,000 tons in 1935-38 to 256,000 tons in 1955-58, and its share of the regional total fell from 61 to 38 percent. Even so, the State retained its position as number 1 producer. Production in Ohio, which ranks second in importance, almost doubled and increased from 19 to 30 percent of the regional total. Illinois and Michigan also showed sharp gains in production and in relative importance. The minor producing States in the region--Wisconsin, Iowa, and Missouri--lost considerable ground both in terms of tonnage and relative importance.

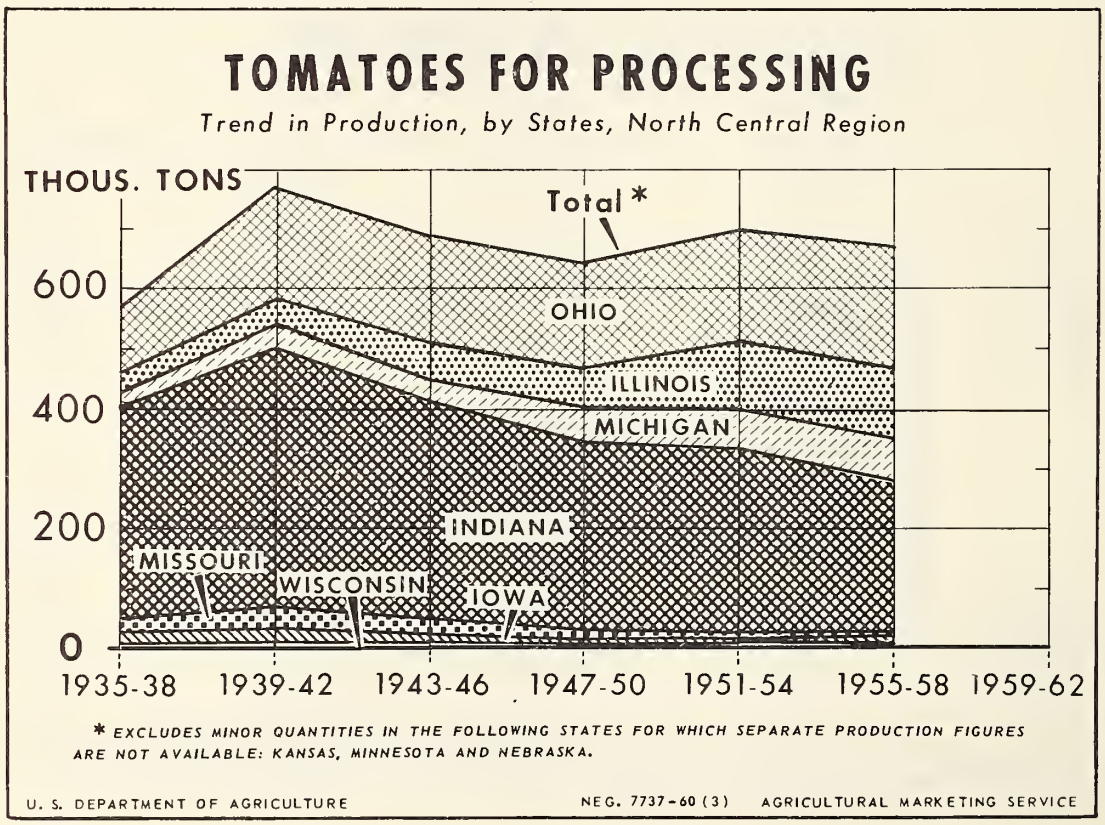


Table 4.--Tomatoes for processing: Trend in harvested acreage, yield and production, selected States, North Central Region, 1935-58 1/

Period	Acreage, North Central Region							
	Ohio	Indiana	Illinois	Michigan	Wisconsin	Iowa	Missouri	Total
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
1935-38	19.8	85.3	10.9	5.0	2.9	5.5	12.5	141.9
1939-42	27.3	77.3	9.2	5.9	2.2	4.8	13.6	140.3
1943-46	27.6	73.3	12.1	6.4	1.5	3.4	10.9	135.2
1947-50	25.3	57.3	10.1	7.7	1.4	1.5	6.4	109.7
1951-54	18.5	39.7	11.5	7.1	1.1	1.5	3.1	82.5
1955-58	19.6	29.6	9.6	7.4	.8	1.6	1.5	70.1
	Yield per acre, North Central Region							
	Ohio	Indiana	Illinois	Michigan	Wisconsin	Iowa	Missouri	Average
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
1935-38	5.5	4.1	3.3	5.0	3.8	3.2	1.7	4.0
1939-42	6.8	5.5	4.6	6.8	5.7	4.7	2.7	5.5
1943-46	6.5	4.9	5.1	5.8	5.3	4.3	2.8	5.1
1947-50	6.9	5.5	6.7	7.3	6.1	5.3	2.0	5.9
1951-54	10.3	7.8	9.5	8.6	8.1	6.4	2.7	8.5
1955-58	10.3	8.6	12.3	9.7	9.4	8.2	2.3	9.6
	Production, North Central Region							
	Ohio	Indiana	Illinois	Michigan	Wisconsin	Iowa	Missouri	Total
	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons
1935-38	109.6	351.7	35.9	24.9	10.9	17.8	21.1	571.9
1939-42	185.9	428.5	42.0	40.4	12.6	22.5	37.2	769.1
1943-46	180.7	356.2	62.0	37.2	8.0	14.6	30.8	689.5
1947-50	173.5	316.5	67.7	55.9	8.6	8.0	13.0	643.2
1951-54	190.9	311.5	109.2	61.3	8.9	9.6	8.3	699.7
1955-58	202.8	255.9	117.8	71.6	7.5	13.2	3.5	672.3
	Production as percentage of North Central Region							
	Ohio	Indiana	Illinois	Michigan	Wisconsin	Iowa	Missouri	Total
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1935-38	19.2	61.5	6.3	4.3	1.9	3.1	3.7	100.0
1939-42	24.2	55.7	5.5	5.3	1.6	2.9	4.8	100.0
1943-46	26.2	51.6	9.0	5.4	1.2	2.1	4.5	100.0
1947-50	27.0	49.2	10.5	8.7	1.3	1.3	2.0	100.0
1951-54	27.3	44.5	15.6	8.7	1.3	1.4	1.2	100.0
1955-58	30.2	38.1	17.5	10.6	1.1	2.0	.5	100.0

1/ Does not include minor amounts in the following States for which separate acreage and production figures are not available: Kansas, Minnesota and Nebraska.

Vegetables-Processing, USDA, AMS, annual report.

Production of tomatoes for processing in the South Central Region typically amounts to less than 2 percent of total U. S. tonnage. Acreage and production increased sharply from the early-to the mid-1940's, and then declined. Among the 5 States reporting commercial production, acreage in recent years was sharply lower in Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. However, acreage in Texas in 1955-58 was about double that of 1935-38.

Yield per acre in the region increased more than a third in the past 20 years. But average yield remains much lower than in any other region and only a fourth the national average.

Production in the region expanded rapidly from about 78,000 tons in 1935-38 to 134,000 tons in 1943-46. Production declined, and averaged only 64,000 tons in 1955-58. Production during the period declined sharply in most of the States in the region, but increased from 18,000 tons to almost 51,000 tons in Texas. Texas' relative importance increased fairly consistently, from less than a fourth of the regional total in 1935-38 to more than three-fourths in recent years. Tonnage in Arkansas, leading State in the region in 1935-38, dropped sharply after the early 1940's, with relative importance declining from 33 percent of the regional total in 1935-38 to 13 percent in the most recent period. Production also decreased sharply in Kentucky, and in Tennessee and Oklahoma declined to the point that data for these two States are no longer reported separately.

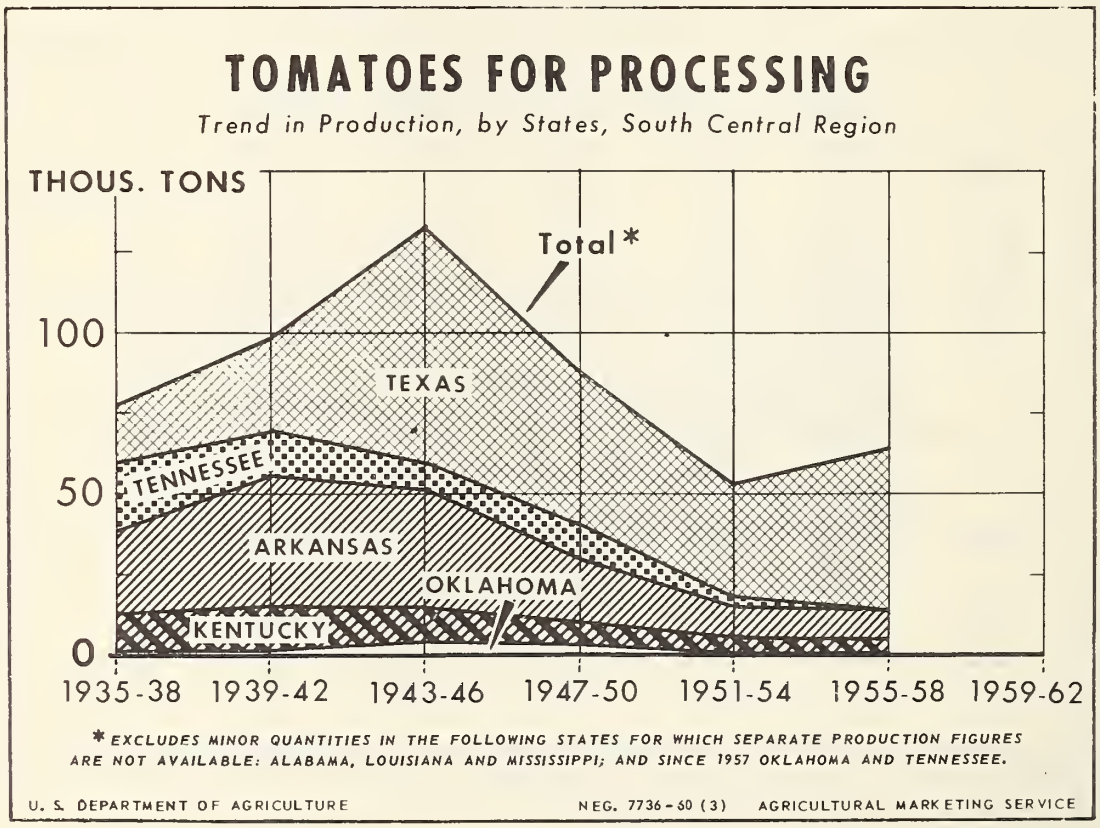


Table 5.--Tomatoes for processing: Trend in harvested acreage, yield and production, selected States, South Central Region, 1935-58 1/

Period	Kentucky	Tennessee	Arkansas	Oklahoma	Texas	Total
	Acreage, South Central Region					
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
1935-38	4.8	9.3	14.3	0.8	8.2	37.4
1939-42	4.7	6.8	16.4	1.0	11.7	40.6
1943-46	4.3	5.1	15.8	2.2	27.2	54.6
1947-50	2.7	3.7	9.2	1.8	19.0	36.4
1951-54	1.4	1.2	3.4	.2	15.1	21.3
1955-58	1.2	---	2.8	---	17.5	21.9
	Yield per acre, South Central Region					
	Kentucky	Tennessee	Arkansas	Oklahoma	Texas	Average
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
1935-38	2.5	2.2	1.8	1.6	2.2	2.1
1939-42	3.0	2.0	2.4	1.3	2.5	2.4
1943-46	2.4	1.6	2.3	2.1	2.7	2.4
1947-50	2.8	3.1	2.0	1.7	2.5	2.4
1951-54	3.7	2.3	2.7	2.0	2.4	2.5
1955-58	4.0	---	2.9	---	2.9	2.9
	Production, South Central Region					
	Kentucky	Tennessee	Arkansas	Oklahoma	Texas	Total
	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons
1935-38	11.9	20.6	25.6	1.3	18.1	77.5
1939-42	14.0	13.7	40.0	1.3	29.5	98.5
1943-46	10.4	8.2	36.0	4.6	74.3	133.5
1947-50	7.6	11.5	18.6	3.0	47.8	88.5
1951-54	5.2	2.8	9.1	.4	35.7	53.2
1955-58	4.8	---	8.1	---	50.6	64.3
	Production as percentage of South Central Region					
	Kentucky	Tennessee	Arkansas	Oklahoma	Texas	Total
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1935-38	15.4	26.6	33.0	1.7	23.3	100.0
1939-42	14.2	13.9	40.6	1.3	30.0	100.0
1943-46	7.8	6.1	27.0	3.4	55.7	100.0
1947-50	8.6	13.0	21.0	3.4	54.0	100.0
1951-54	9.8	5.3	17.1	.7	67.1	100.0
1955-58	7.4	---	12.6	---	78.7	100.0

1/ Does not include minor amounts in the following States for which separate acreage and production figures are not available: Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi; and since 1957 Oklahoma and Tennessee.

Vegetables-Processing, USDA, AMS, annual report.

The North Atlantic Region like other areas has experienced increasing competition from rapidly expanding production in the Western Region. The impact of such competition has been especially telling in recent years. Production for processing in the North Atlantic Region showed a substantial upward trend from the mid-1930's to the early 1950's but then declined.

Acreage of tomatoes reached a peak in the mid-1940's, and has since declined. Acreage in all three producing States, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, has declined sharply from their peaks, but in 1955-58 acreage in Pennsylvania was still above the 1935-38 average. Average yield for the region increased about 50 percent, with the sharpest increase in New Jersey.

Production in the region increased sharply from 385,000 tons in 1935-38 to 614,000 tons in 1951-54. But output subsequently declined, and in 1955-58 averaged 482,000 tons. Inspection of yearly data suggests that the drop resulted from an erratic but sharp decline in acreage.

In each of the 4-year period New Jersey ranked first in production, though New York ranked first in a number of individual years. Tonnage in New York declined almost a fourth and its share of the regional total fell from 37 to 23 percent. Pennsylvania's output more than doubled and its share rose from 20 to 34 percent of the total. New Jersey about retained its share of the regional total, at a little over 40 percent, as production expanded from 168,000 tons to 208,000 tons.

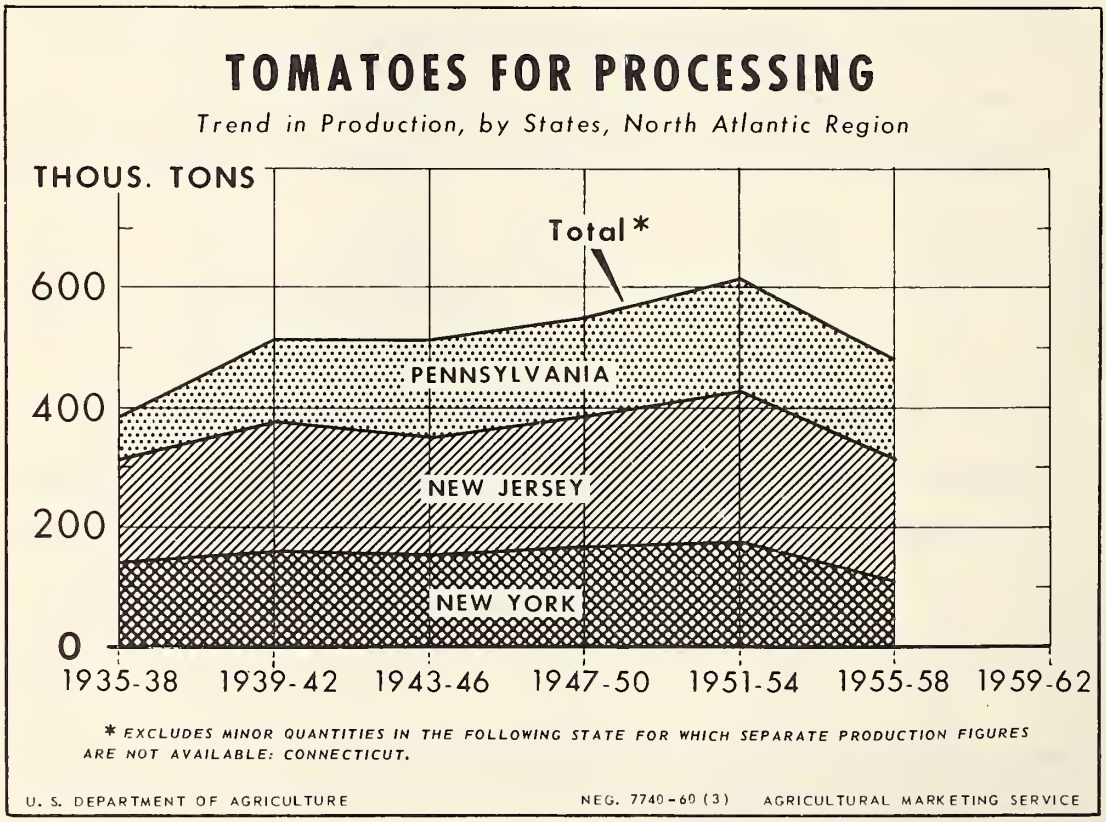


Table 6--Tomatoes for processing: Trend in harvested acreage, yield and production, selected States, North Atlantic Region, 1935-58 1/

Period	Acreage, North Atlantic Region			
	New York	New Jersey	Pennsylvania	Total
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
1935-38	19.3	33.7	14.2	67.2
1939-42	20.5	33.5	21.5	75.5
1943-46	24.9	37.1	34.0	96.0
1847-50	21.8	27.7	21.9	71.4
1951-54	16.8	30.1	24.0	70.9
1955-58	13.5	22.6	20.6	56.7
	Yield per acre, North Atlantic Region			
	New York	New Jersey	Pennsylvania	Average
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
1935-38	7.3	5.0	5.3	5.7
1939-42	7.8	6.5	6.3	6.8
1943-46	6.1	5.5	4.6	5.3
1947-50	7.5	8.0	7.5	7.7
1951-54	10.4	8.3	7.9	8.7
1955-58	8.1	9.2	8.0	8.5
	Production, North Atlantic Region			
	New York	New Jersey	Pennsylvania	Total
	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons
1935-38	141.3	168.0	75.2	384.5
1939-42	160.5	216.6	136.5	513.6
1943-46	152.8	202.8	156.2	511.8
1947-50	164.1	220.4	165.2	549.7
1951-54	173.9	250.0	190.3	614.2
1955-58	109.0	207.5	165.1	481.6
	Production as percentage of North Atlantic Region			
	New York	New Jersey	Pennsylvania	Total
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1935-38	36.7	43.7	19.6	100.0
1939-42	31.2	42.2	26.6	100.0
1943-46	29.9	39.6	30.5	100.0
1947-50	29.9	40.1	30.0	100.0
1951-54	28.3	40.7	31.0	100.0
1955-58	22.6	43.1	34.3	100.0

1/ Does not include minor amounts in the following State for which separate acreage and production figures are not available: Connecticut.

Vegetables-Processing, USDA, AMS, annual report.

The South Atlantic Region has declined in importance as a production area of tomatoes for processing. Yield increased sharply and in 1955-58 averaged 5.6 tons per acre compared with only 3.4 tons in 1935-38. But acreage declined drastically, and production declined from 337,000 tons to 210,000 tons. This meant a big loss in the region's share of the national total--from 18 percent to little more than 5 percent.

Among individual States in the region, acreage was down 80 percent in Maryland, 66 percent in Delaware and 49 percent in Virginia, South Carolina showed no significant change, while acreage in Florida about doubled.

The acreage and yield trends also altered the regional pattern of production. Maryland, the largest producer in the region, lost much ground both in actual tonnage, and in terms of its relative importance. Production in Maryland decreased about 60 percent from 206,000 to 80,000 tons, and relative importance declined from 61 to 38 percent of the regional total. Production in Virginia declined from 72,000 to 48,000 tons during the period, a decrease of a third, but continued to account for a little over a fifth of the regional total. Tonnage in Delaware was down about a fifth but, because of the much sharper cut in Maryland, increased its share of the regional total. Production in Florida was sharply higher in 1955-58 than in the earlier period. Florida's relative importance jumped from 4 to 22 percent of the regional total.

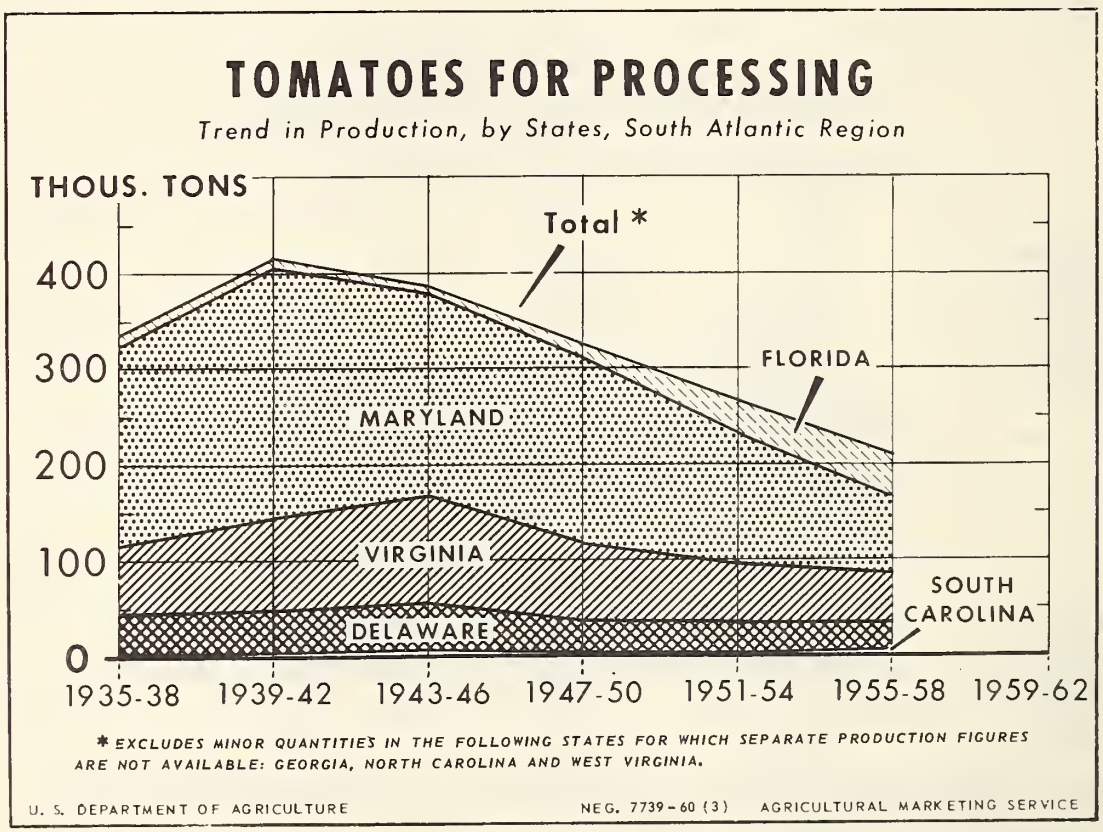


Table 7.--Tomatoes for processing: Trend in harvested acreage, yield and production, selected States, South Atlantic Region, 1935-58 1/

Period	Acreage, South Atlantic Region					
	Delaware	Maryland	Virginia	South Carolina	Florida	Total
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
1935-38	12.4	59.1	23.1	1.4	4.2	100.2
1939-42	10.1	53.6	24.4	1.5	3.8	93.4
1943-46	11.2	51.1	34.0	2.5	2.9	101.7
1947-50	5.6	32.5	18.4	2.0	3.1	61.6
1951-54	4.4	19.3	15.1	1.4	7.6	47.8
1955-58	4.1	11.7	11.8	1.5	8.2	37.3
	Yield per acre, South Atlantic Region					
	Delaware	Maryland	Virginia	South Carolina	Florida	Average
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
1935-38	3.4	3.5	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.4
1939-42	4.7	4.9	3.9	1.5	2.9	4.5
1943-46	4.6	4.1	3.3	1.7	3.1	3.8
1947-50	6.2	5.9	4.4	1.6	4.3	5.3
1951-54	7.5	7.0	4.0	1.8	4.8	5.6
1955-58	8.1	6.8	4.1	2.3	5.6	5.6
	Production, South Atlantic Region					
	Delaware	Maryland	Virginia	South Carolina	Florida	Total
	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons
1935-38	42.2	205.7	72.2	4.0	12.7	336.8
1939-42	47.1	260.4	94.8	2.3	11.2	415.8
1943-46	51.0	211.5	111.9	4.2	8.9	387.5
1947-50	34.5	192.0	81.2	3.1	13.2	324.0
1951-54	33.1	134.6	60.6	2.5	36.5	267.3
1955-58	33.1	79.8	48.1	3.4	46.0	210.4
	Production as percentage of South Atlantic Region					
	Delaware	Maryland	Virginia	South Carolina	Florida	Total
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1935-38	12.5	61.1	21.4	1.2	3.8	100.0
1939-42	11.3	62.6	22.8	.6	2.7	100.0
1943-46	13.1	54.6	28.9	1.1	2.3	100.0
1947-50	10.6	59.2	25.1	1.0	4.1	100.0
1951-54	12.4	50.4	22.7	.9	13.6	100.0
1955-58	15.7	37.9	22.9	1.6	21.9	100.0

1/ Does not include minor amounts in the following States for which separate acreage and production figures are not available: Georgia, North Carolina and West Virginia. Vegetables-Processing, USDA, AMS, annual report.

LIST OF TABLES

Table 8.--Truck crops, potatoes and sweetpotatoes: Unloads at 38 markets, indicated periods 1959 and 1960

(Expressed in carlot equivalents)

Commodity	February 28 - March 27, 1959				January 30-February 26, 1960				February 27-March 25, 1960				March 26 - April 15, 1960			
	Rail, boat, and air	Truck 1/	Imports	Total	Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Imports	Total	Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Imports	Total	Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Imports	Total
Asparagus	315	391	---	706	2	32	---	34	214	378	---	592	671	425	---	1,096
Beans, lima, snap, and fava	111	573	85	769	70	265	38	373	46	373	22	441	135	483	68	686
Beets	3	53	---	56	2	40	---	42	1	46	---	47	12	46	---	58
Broccoli	267	125	---	392	196	131	---	327	194	110	---	304	214	81	---	295
Cabbage	872	2,388	34	3,294	921	2,190	37	3,148	915	2,331	17	3,263	739	1,536	3	2,278
Cantaloups and other melons 2/	---	---	431	431	---	---	270	270	2	5	617	624	1	2	586	589
Carrots	663	1,332	---	1,995	854	899	---	1,753	814	874	---	1,688	657	597	---	1,254
Cauliflower	335	484	---	819	299	488	---	787	257	491	---	748	270	345	---	615
Celery	1,400	1,929	---	3,329	1,184	1,356	---	2,540	1,177	1,522	---	2,699	1,006	1,178	---	2,184
Corn	49	292	5	346	10	71	14	95	50	105	6	161	46	216	1	263
Cucumbers	9	490	118	617	36	116	239	391	27	140	155	322	12	186	98	296
Escarole and endive	41	187	---	228	81	276	5	362	80	265	2	347	57	191	5	253
Lettuce and romaine	3,277	2,621	---	5,898	3,100	2,859	---	5,959	3,148	2,727	---	5,875	2,768	2,334	---	5,102
Onions 3/	595	1,910	555	3,060	564	1,414	127	2,105	452	1,516	192	2,160	469	1,041	117	1,627
Peas, green	60	74	33	167	---	8	107	115	5	37	104	146	19	20	---	39
Peppers	72	355	289	716	56	294	215	565	124	404	149	677	101	344	106	551
Spinach	282	191	---	473	238	172	---	410	247	195	---	442	140	157	---	297
Tomatoes	199	1,641	2,315	4,155	258	933	1,555	2,746	100	821	1,765	2,686	270	770	1,135	2,175
Turnips and rutabagas	1	377	208	586	2	304	177	483	3	249	151	403	5	166	101	272
Watermelons	---	2	82	84	---	---	96	96	---	1	151	152	---	8	267	275
Other Vegetables (including mixed)	1,538	154	---	1,692	1,514	112	1	1,627	1,631	125	1	1,757	1,171	104	---	1,275
Total	10,089	15,569	4,155	29,813	9,387	11,960	2,881	24,228	9,487	12,715	3,332	25,534	8,763	10,230	2,487	21,480
Potatoes	7,541	7,049	22	14,612	6,848	5,588	12	12,448	8,335	5,353	8	13,696	6,364	3,418	2	9,784
Sweetpotatoes	8	1,728	---	1,736	5	1,185	---	1,190	8	1,123	---	1,131	6	865	---	871
Grand total	17,638	24,346	4,177	46,161	16,240	18,733	2,893	37,866	17,830	19,191	3,340	40,361	15,133	14,513	2,489	32,135

1/ Revised to reflect heavier truck loading--reference special notice in January 18, 1960, Weekly Shipments-Unloads Summary, AMS.
2/ Except watermelons. 3/ Includes shallots, chives, cipolinas, leeks, scallions, and green onions.

Markets include: Albany, Atlanta, Baltimore, Birmingham, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbia, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Louisville, Memphis, Miami, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Nashville, Newark, New Orleans, New York, Oakland, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Portland (Ore.), Providence, St. Louis, St. Paul, Salt Lake City, San Antonio, San Francisco, Washington, and Wichita.

Truck unloads are not 100 percent complete but represent highest percentage obtainable under local conditions in markets covered.

Market News: Weekly reports, USDA, AMS.

Table 9.--Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when available), indicated periods, 1959 and 1960

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday nearest mid-month					
			1959		1960			
			Mar. 17	Apr. 14	Jan. 12	Feb. 16	Mar. 15	Apr. 12
			Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
New York:								
Beans, snap, green, Valentine	Florida	Bu. bskt.	4.00	6.25	3.50	---	5.00	4.25
Beets, bunched	Texas	42's	4.00	3.40	3.75	3.50	3.90	3.50
Broccoli, bunched	California	14's, small crt.	2.75	2.75	3.75	3.50	3.75	3.10
Cabbage:								
Domestic, Round type	Florida	1-3/4 bu. crt.	2.50	2.50	2.75	2.20	2.15	2.25
Carrots:								
Bunched	California	4 doz. pony crt.	4.12	3.80	---	3.10	4.65	4.85
Topped, washed	California	48-1 lb. film bag crt.	4.12	4.25	---	3.75	4.25	3.50
Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag crt.	3.50	---	3.15	2.68	---	2.75
Cauliflower	California	Ctns.film wrpd.12's	---	3.25	3.85	---	4.25	3.25
Celery								
Pascal	Florida	16-in. crt.	2.10	2.25	2.75	2.90	3.00	2.75
Pascal	California	16-in. crt.	3.75	4.50	5.00	5.65	5.25	4.25
Escarole	Florida	1-1/9 bu. crt.	1.62	2.00	1.45	1.90	1.65	1.65
Lettuce, Big Boston	Florida	2 doz. crt.	---	---	3.75	3.25	1.50	1.50
Onions:								
Western section, Yellow, medium	New York	50-lb. sack	4.50	6.75	1.50	1.33	1.30	1.50
Yellow, large	Idaho	50-lb. sack	5.00	---	2.50	2.50	2.45	2.75
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu. bskt.	8.50	4.50	7.50	5.25	4.00	4.00
Spinach, Savoy	Texas	Bu. bskt.	1.90	2.00	1.90	2.20	2.25	2.00
Chicago:								
Beans, snap, green	Florida	Bu. bskt.	4.75	6.00	4.25	6.50	6.25	4.75
Beets, bunched	Texas	42's	3.35	3.25	3.65	3.35	3.55	---
Broccoli	California	14's, small crt.	2.85	2.50	3.50	3.70	3.15	2.75
Cabbage:								
Domestic, Round type	Texas	1-3/4 bu. crt.	2.35	2.50	3.00	2.25	2.15	2.80
Carrots:								
Topped, washed	California	48-1 lb. film bag	4.15	4.25	3.75	3.75	---	3.25
Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag	---	---	3.15	2.60	2.45	2.45
Celery:								
Pascal	Florida	16-in. crt.	2.35	2.65	3.15	2.80	2.85	2.85
Pascal	California	16-in. crt.	3.25	3.75	4.25	4.50	4.85	3.75
Lettuce, Iceberg, dry pack	California	2 doz. head crtn.	2.85	1.85	4.75	3.25	3.00	---
Onions:								
Yellow, Spanish	Idaho	50-lb. sack	4.75	---	2.20	2.15	2.25	---
Yellow, medium	Midwestern	50-lb. sack	4.35	5.50	1.30	1.15	1.25	1.00
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu. bskt.	7.00	5.75	8.50	6.00	6.25	6.00
Spinach, flat type	Texas	Bu. bskt.	2.25	1.85	2.15	1.90	1.75	---

Weekly summary of terminal market prices, USDA, AMS, Market News Reports.

Table 10.--Vegetables, fresh: Average price per hundredweight received by farmers, United States, indicated periods, 1959 and 1960

Commodity	1959		1960		
	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 15
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Beans, snap	13.30	9.90	9.70	14.70	14.00
Broccoli	9.70	8.40	12.20	10.70	10.30
Cabbage	1.85	1.55	2.80	2.05	1.35
Carrots	2.10	2.25	2.10	2.10	1.95
Cauliflower	3.75	3.35	5.30	3.65	3.65
Celery	2.55	2.40	3.50	3.60	3.40
Corn, sweet	6.50	7.40	8.00	7.30	6.80
Cucumbers	13.50	18.80	7.70	10.40	13.30
Lettuce	5.40	3.80	6.30	5.20	5.10
Onions	4.10	8.10	1.55	1.40	1.35
Peppers, green	16.00	21.60	22.90	19.60	13.60
Spinach	7.20	7.00	6.60	8.00	8.10
Tomatoes	10.10	11.30	12.50	11.40	13.20

Agricultural Prices, USDA, AMS, issued monthly.

Table 11.--Vegetables for commercial processing: Prospective plantings, average 1949-58, annual 1959 and 1960

Crop	Planted acreage			1960 as percentage of-	
	Average 1949-58	1959	Intended 1960	Average 1949-58	1959
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Percent	Percent
Asparagus	98,410	111,200	---	---	---
Beans, green lima	106,500	84,870	97,290	91	115
Beans, snap	143,200	174,000	184,650	129	106
Beets for canning	19,000	13,760	14,770	78	107
Cabbage for kraut					
Contract	9,100	7,880	8,990	99	114
Open market	6,600	2,750	---	---	---
Total for cabbage	15,700	10,630	---	---	---
Corn, sweet	459,700	450,000	438,370	95	97
Cucumbers for pickles	141,100	106,770	103,100	73	97
Peas, green	453,900	359,700	376,500	83	105
Spinach: 1/					
Winter and early spring	8,770	10,700	9,900	113	93
Late spring and fall	30,510	29,700	---	---	---
Total for spinach	39,280	40,400	---	---	---
Tomatoes	343,400	296,030	293,250	85	99
Total, 10 crops	1,820,100	1,647,360	---	---	---

1/ Winter 1957-58 average. Previous years not available.

Vegetables-Processing, USDA, AMS, issued monthly.

Table 12.--Vegetables, frozen: Cold-storage holdings, March 31, 1960, with comparisons

Commodity	March average 1955-59	1959	1960		
		March 31	January 31	February 29	March 31 1/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Asparagus	10.8	10.5	14.7	11.4	9.4
Beans, lima, Fordhook	n.a.	n.a.	37.4	32.7	28.7
baby	n.a.	n.a.	35.9	27.9	23.7
Total 2/	73.4	73.5	73.3	60.6	52.4
Beans snap, regular cut	n.a.	n.a.	47.8	38.7	29.0
French style	n.a.	n.a.	28.5	23.4	17.7
Total 2/	49.4	57.5	76.3	62.1	46.7
Broccoli	41.2	52.8	37.2	37.4	42.6
Brussels sprouts	20.1	18.3	23.8	20.0	16.4
Carrots	n.a.	24.1	35.9	30.3	25.2
Cauliflower	17.3	16.2	14.9	11.8	10.4
Corn, sweet	52.0	49.5	70.7	57.4	45.4
Peas and carrots	n.a.	13.7	13.2	12.2	11.5
Peas, green	104.5	114.7	174.9	147.6	117.2
Potatoes, french fried	n.a.	97.1	81.4	96.8	106.7
Spinach	26.4	28.6	32.3	28.1	37.7
Mixed vegetables	n.a.	21.9	21.1	20.3	20.8
Other vegetables	173.3	69.5	85.1	74.4	70.4
Total	568.4	647.9	754.8	670.4	612.8

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Not reported separately prior to January 31, 1960.
n.a. not available.

Cold Storage Report, USDA, AMS, issued monthly.

Table 13.--Potatoes: Acreage and prospective plantings for 1960 season with comparisons

Seasonal group	Acreage 1949-58 average	Yield per harvested acre 1955-59 average	Acreage		
			1959	1960	1960 as percentage of 1959
	1,000 acres	Cwt.	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Acreage harvested:					
Winter	27.1	155.2	26.3	20.6	78.3
Early spring	25.5	143.1	25.6	28.6	111.7
Late spring	183.5	156.0	138.1	153.0	110.8
Total	236.1	---	190.0	202.2	106.4
Prospective plantings:					
Early summer 1/	129.2	2/114.0	115.2	117.1	101.6
Late summer and fall 3/	1,137.7	2/179.0	1,109.7	1,125.4	104.4
Total	1,266.9	---	1,224.9	1,242.5	101.4

1/ Intended acreage for 1960 as of February 1.
2/ Yield per planted acre.
3/ Intended acreage for 1960 as of March 1.

Crop Production, USDA, AMS, issued monthly.

Table 14.--Canned vegetables: Commercial packs 1958 and 1959 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks 1959 and 1960, by commodities, United States

Commodity	Pack		Stocks					
			Canners 1/			Wholesale distributors 1/		
	1958	1959	Date	1959	1960	Date	1959	1960
	1,000 cases 24/2's	1,000 cases 24/2's		1,000 cases 24/2's	1,000 cases 24/2's		1,000 cases 24/2's	1,000 cases 24/2's
Major commodities								
Beans, snap	26,432	25,338	Apr. 1	9,505	7,099	Jan. 1	2,596	2,697
Corn, sweet	27,075	33,810	Apr. 1	9,342	10,657	Jan. 1	3,332	3,147
Peas, green	29,549	25,674	Apr. 1	13,300	9,018	Jan. 1	2,911	3,113
Tomatoes	30,465	24,126	Apr. 1	10,673	7,001	Jan. 1	3,308	3,289
Tomato juice 2/	37,467	31,116	Apr. 1	29,417	24,852	Jan. 1	2,452	2,461
Total	150,988	140,064		72,237	58,627		14,599	14,707
Minor commodities								
Asparagus	6,183	5,811	Mar. 1	1,329	1,061	Jan. 1	544	592
Beans, lima	2,464	2,692	Feb. 1	1,508	1,341	Jan. 1	473	493
Beets	8,030	7,741	Mar. 1	4,929	4,238	Jan. 1	954	1,030
Blackeye peas	1,951	1,727						
Carrots	3,186	2,425	Mar. 1	1,869	1,687	Jan. 1	434	470
Okra 3/	853	627						
Pickles	4/24,262	4/22,794						
Pimientos	493	638						
Pumpkin and squash	3,535	3,666	Apr. 1	960	945	Jan. 1	550	516
Sauerkraut	4/10,962	4/7,614	Apr. 1	5/4,643	5/2,719	Jan. 1	712	876
Potatoes	3,383	n.a.						
Sweetpotatoes	7,017	n.a.						
Spinach	5,240	7,135	Mar. 1	1,104	1,898	Jan. 1	575	623
Other greens	2,521	1,791						
Tomato products:								
Catsup and chili sauce	21,075	19,258	Apr. 1	11,421	9,171	Jan. 1	1,429	1,529
Paste	6/11,477	6/8,520	Apr. 1	7/4,231	7/2,636	Jan. 1	745	863
Pulp and puree	4,320	3,525	Apr. 1	7/1,833	7/ 764	Jan. 1	619	623
Sauce	12,158	9,448	Apr. 1	7/5,551	7/4,479	Jan. 1	625	754
Vegetables, mixed	3,463	3,560						
Total comparable minor items	122,173	108,972		39,378	30,939		7,660	8,369
Grand total comparable items	273,161	249,036		111,615	89,566		22,259	23,076

1/ Converted from actual cases to standard cases of 24 No. 2 cans.
2/ Includes combination vegetable juices containing at least 70 percent tomato juice.
3/ Okra, okra and tomatoes, and okra, corn and tomatoes.
4/ Crop for processing converted to a canned basis by applying an overall conversion factor (pickles 68 and sauerkraut 54 cases equivalent to 1 ton fresh.)
5/ Reported in barrels; converted to 24/2's by using 14 cases to the barrel.
6/ Estimated, basis California pack.
7/ California only.

n. a. - not available.

Canners' stock and pack data from the National Canners Association, unless otherwise noted.
Wholesale distributors' stock from United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 15.--Potatoes, winter and spring: Acreage, yield per acre, average 1949-58, 1959 and indicated 1960 1/

Seasonal group	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average 1949-58 2/	1959	Indicated 1960	Average 1949-58 2/	1959	Indicated 1960	Average 1949-58 2/	1959	Indicated 1960
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Winter	27.1	26.3	20.6	155.0	152.3	146.3	4,190	4,005	3,014
Early spring	25.5	25.6	28.6	136.4	122.8	120.0	3,490	3,144	3,432
Late spring	183.5	138.1	153.0	134.8	170.6	---	24,501	23,558	---

1/ This acreage and production is later included in reports of total potatoes. 2/ Simple averages of annual data for the season.

Table 16.--Sweetpotatoes: Plantings, average 1949-58, annual 1959 and indicated 1960

Area	Acreage			
	Average 1949-58	1959	Indicated 1960 1/	1960 as percentage of 1959
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Central Atlantic 2/	38.2	42.7	37.8	89
Lower Atlantic 3/	100.1	62.5	53.3	85
South Central 4/	196.8	164.9	135.9	82
North Central 5/	3.7	3.3	2.8	85
California	11.7	13.0	12.0	92
United States	352.5	286.4	6/241.8	84.4

1/ Indications as of March 1, 1960. 2/ New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. 3/ North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. 4/ Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas. 5/ Missouri and Kansas. 6/ Assuming 1955-59, average yield by States, production from this prospective acreage would amount to 15.1 million hundredweight in 1960, compared with 18.7 million hundredweight in 1959.

Crop Production, USDA, AMS, issued monthly.

Table 17.--Potatoes: Price f.o.b. shipping points and wholesale price per hundredweight at New York and Chicago, indicated periods 1959 and 1960

Item	Week ended						
	1959			1960			
	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Apr. 18	Jan. 16	Feb. 13	Mar. 12	Apr. 16
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.o.b. shipping points:							
New stock							
Dade County, Florida, U. S. No. 1, Size A, Round Red 1/	2.84	2.36	3.60	---	5.00	5.00	6.00
Old stock							
San Luis Valley, Colorado, Red McClure 2/	1.74	1.40	2.49	2.75	2.75	3.12	3.58
Idaho Falls, Idaho Russet Burbank	2.16	1.98	---	4.26	4.00	4.47	---
Arrostook County, Maine, U. S. No. 1, Size A, Katahdin 1/ 3/	.98	1.04	1.26	2.28	2.18	2.68	3.28
Hartford, Connecticut-Rockville area, Katahdin	1.25	1.22	---	2.60	2.49	3.18	---
Rochester, West and Central New York Katahdin 1/	1.38	1.30	1.36	2.84	3.04	3.36	3.92
East Grand Forks, Minnesota Round Reds mostly Pontiacs, washed	1.26	1.19	---	2.18	1.98	2.26	3.32
	Tuesday nearest mid-month						
	1959			1960			
	Feb. 17	Mar. 17	Apr. 14	Jan. 12	Feb. 16	Mar. 15	Apr. 12
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Terminal Markets:							
New York:							
New stock							
Florida, Round Reds 1/ 5/	4.80	4.00	5.76	---	7.00	6.90	8.24
Old stock							
Long Island, Katahdin 1/ 4/ 5/	1.74	1.70	1.70	3.06	3.10	3.76	---
Maine, Katahdin 1/ 3/ 5/	2.06	2.14	2.16	3.26	3.40	3.80	4.40
Idaho, Russet Burbank 1/ 5/	4.50	4.50	2.60	6.40	6.50	6.90	7.36
Chicago:							
New stock							
Florida, Round Reds 1/ 5/ 6/	4.00	3.40	5.00	6.50	6.80	6.50	7.40
Old stock							
Idaho, Russet Burbank 5/ 7/	3.45	3.25	3.95	5.60	5.50	6.20	6.40

1/ 50 pound price doubled.
2/ 2 3/4 " minimum.
3/ 2 1/4 " minimum.
4/ Some chippewas.
5/ U. S. no. 1, size A.
6/ Street sales.
7/ Carlot sales.

F. o. b. prices are the simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Terminal market prices are for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by Market News representatives to the Fruit and Vegetable Division of AMS.

Table 18.--Sweetpotatoes: F.o.b. prices at Southern Louisiana points and representative market prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1, when available), indicated periods 1959 and 1960

Location and variety	Unit	Week ended						
		1959			1960			
		Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Apr. 18	Jan. 16	Feb. 13	Mar. 12	Apr. 16
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.o.b. shipping points								
S.W. Louisiana points								
Puerto Rican, U.S. No.1, cured	50 pound crate	3.25	3.14	3.12	2.88	2.80	2.80	3.12
		Tuesday nearest mid-month						
		1959			1960			
		Feb. 17	Mar. 17	Apr. 14	Jan. 12	Feb. 16	Mar. 15	Apr. 12
Terminal markets								
New York								
New Jersey, orange Jersey type	Bushel basket	3.13	3.13	3.05	2.38	2.25	2.13	2.25
North Carolina, Puerto Rican type	Bushel basket	4.40	4.35	4.10	3.50	3.25	3.50	3.40
Chicago								
Louisiana, Puerto Rican, cured	50 pound crate	4.00	3.75	3.65	3.65	3.50	3.50	3.65

F. o. b. prices are simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Market prices are for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by Market News representatives to the Fruit and Vegetable Division of AMS.

Table 19.--Average price per hundredweight received by farmers for potatoes, sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas, United States, indicated periods, 1959 and 1960

Commodity	1959		1960		
	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 15
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Field crops					
Potatoes 1/	1.10	1.04	2.10	2.13	2.65
Sweetpotatoes	4.25	3.96	3.51	3.35	3.46
Beans, dry edible	6.86	6.79	7.50	7.43	7.41
Peas, dry field	6.22	6.22	3.92	3.75	3.66

1/ Monthly average price.

Agricultural Prices, USDA, AMS, issued monthly.

Table 20.--Peas, dry field: Prospective plantings for 1960 season, with comparisons 1/

State	Acreage planted 1949-58 average	Yield per planted acre 1955-59 average	Acreage planted		
			1959	Indicated 1960 2/	1960 as percentage of 1959
	1,000 acres	Pounds	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Minnesota	5	850	5	6	120
North Dakota	4	865	6	6	100
Idaho	98	1,254	130	117	90
Colorado	18	484	13	16	120
Washington	144	1,150	150	158	105
Oregon	10	1,250	12	13	108
California	7	1,358	2	---	---
Total United States	295	1,141	318	3/316	99.4

1/ In principal commercial producing States.
2/ Indication as of March 1, 1960.
3/ Assuming planted yield per acre, by States, equals the 1955-59 average, production from the prospective acreage would be 3.6 million 100-pound bags (cleaned basis), compared with 4.4 million bags produced in 1959.

Crop Production, USDA, AMS, issued monthly.

Table 21.--Beans, dry edible: Prospective plantings for 1960 season, with comparisons 1/

Group of States	Acreage planted 1949-58 average	Yield per planted acre 1955-59 average	Acreage planted		
			1959	Indicated 1960 2/	1960 as percentage of 1959
	1,000 acres	Pounds	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Maine, New York, Michigan	621	932	659	672	102.0
Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Washington	313	1,647	371	341	91.9
Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah	324	697	260	264	101.5
California	309	1,363	267	259	97.0
Total United States	1,567	1,122	1,557	3/1,536	98.7

1/ Includes beans grown for seed.
2/ Indications as of March 1, 1960.
3/ Assuming 1955-59 average yields per planted acre, by States, production from this prospective acreage would amount to about 17.3 million 100-pound bags (cleaned basis), compared with 18.2 million bags produced in 1959.

Crop Production, USDA, AMS, issued monthly.

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